

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 11 and ending at line 18, as follows.

--In recent years, a copying machine, facsimile machine, and printer, which had ~~have~~ conventionally been independent machines, ~~are~~ have been integrated into an image forming apparatus such as ~~one~~ a single digital composite machine, due to ~~under the influence of~~ the spread of networks or the like. This reduces the ~~whole~~ required space and power consumption, and such image forming apparatuses are expected to ~~be~~ become more popular in an office or the like.--

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 19 and ending at line 26, as follows.

--Assuming the use in an office or the like, the above-described image forming apparatus having various modes is generally used as a copying machine most frequently (high copying mode use frequency). The image forming apparatus can be set to, e.g., "return to the initial window of the copying mode regardless of whether an immediately preceding operation is a facsimile, copying, or printer operation when it is left unused for 3 min or more."

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 3 and ending at line 14, as follows.

--The composite machine in the embodiment has an arrangement shown in Fig. 2. More specifically, the composite machine comprises a scanner section 50 for reading a

document image, a printer section 51 for printing various image data from a plurality of independent input paths, e.g., image data received by facsimile communication, image data read by the scanner, and image data received from a remote computer, and a freely mountable sheet processing apparatus 52 having a plurality of bins for storing sheets discharged via discharge port rollers 410 (Fig. 3) of the printer section 51. Note that the operation panel including the display device 8 is attached to the scanner section 50.--

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 19 and ending at page 8, line 2, as follows.

--Lower separation operation for a document will be described. Document sheets are separated one by one from the bottom of a document by a woodruff roller 303 and separation roller 304. The separated document sheet is conveyed to and stopped at the exposure position of the platen glass 102 by convey rollers 305 and a full-face belt 306. Then, image reading starts. After the end of image read, the document sheet on the platen glass 102 is returned to the top of the document by a large convey roller 307 ~~at~~ and convey rollers 308.--

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 13 and ending at page 10, line 7, as follows.

--Image processes set in various operation sections are executed under the control of the controller 110. In the copying operation, data having undergone image processing as described above is output to the printer section 51, and converted into an optical signal modulated by an exposure controller 201, thereby irradiating a photosensitive body 202. A latent

image formed on the photosensitive body 202 by the irradiation light is developed by a developing unit 203. A transfer sheet is conveyed from a transfer sheet stack unit 204 or 205 in synchronism with the leading end of the latent image, and the developed image is transferred to the transfer sheet by a transfer unit 206. The transferred image is fixed to the transfer sheet by a fixing unit 207, and then the transfer sheet is discharged outside the apparatus via a discharge unit 208. An electrical signal output to the image memory 2 is stored in a compressed-image memory in the image memory 2 by an image compression controller (not shown). The image stored once in the image memory 2 is sent to a selector again by an image decompression controller (not shown), and output to a printer section 51 ~~300~~.--